

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Patent Application No. 2001-07667 ("JP '677").

Claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent claims.

Claims 8-14

With respect to independent claim 8, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection at least because JP '677 does not disclose all of the claim's recitations. For example, JP '677 does not disclose the claimed discharge bulb including an ultraviolet light blocking glass shroud surrounding said light emitting tube.

That is, the bulb of JP '677 merely discloses bulb including a ceramic arc tube 2 and a cylindrical insulators 7 that are provided partially within the ceramic arc tube 2.¹ There is no disclose of an glass shroud surrounding the arc tube.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claim 8.

In addition, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 9-14 at least because of their dependency from independent claim 8.

Claims 1-6 and 15-20

Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to recite that the light blocking portion is provided as a portion of said light emitting tube or is provided radially outside of said light

¹ See JP '677 at FIGs. 1 & 4.

emitting tube, and Applicant has amended independent claim 15 to recite that the means for positioning a hot zone is provided as a portion of said light emitting tube or is provided radially outside of said light emitting tube. These amendments are supported at least by the *exemplary* embodiments shown in FIGs. 2, 10, 12, and 13, in which the light blocking portion is provided *radially outside* of the ceramic light emitting tube, and the *exemplary* embodiment shown in FIG. 11, in which the light blocking portion is provided as *a portion of* the light blocking tube.

With respect to independent claims 1 and 15, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection at least because JP '677 does not disclose all of the claim's recitations. For example, JP '677 does not disclose the claimed discharge bulb in which the light blocking portion (or means for positioning a hot zone) is provided as a portion of said light emitting tube or is provided radially outside of said light emitting tube.

Referring to FIG. 1 of JP '677, the feature that the Examiner asserts as corresponding to the "light blocking portion" (or means for positioning a hot zone) is the seal 6, which is provided *inside* the ceramic tube 2.²

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of independent claims 1 and 15.

In addition, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of dependent claims 2-8 and 16-20 at least because of their dependency from independent claim 1 or independent claim 15.

² See JP '677 at FIG. 1.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appl. No. 10/750,858

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

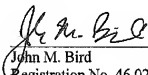
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23373

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Date: December 11, 2006



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